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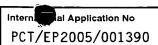
Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: NEW THERAPEUTIC USE FOR A GROUP OF SULPHATED POLYSACCHARIDES

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the use of a sulphated polysaccharide in acid form or as a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, selected from the group consisting of inulin sulphate, gellan sulphate, pullulan sulphate, curdlan sulphate, alginiq acid sulphate, laminarin sulphate, and pectin sulphate, for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of arthrosis in a mammal. Preferably, the sulphated polysaccharide is inulin sulphate, most preferably inulin polysulphate sodium salt. The present invention also relates to the use of a sulphated oligosaccharide derived from a polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of inulin, gellan, pullulan, curdlan, alginic acid, laminarin, and pectin, for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of arthrosis in a mammal.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61P19/02 A61K A61K31/737 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61K A61P Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS, WPI Data, PAJ, EMBASE C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages DATABASE CA 'Online! Χ 1-17CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS, 19 - 25OHIO, US; MINAMI, S. ET AL: "Veterinary-clinical uses of curdlan sulfate" XP002347885 retrieved from STN Database accession no. 1999:492587 abstract & KICHIN, KITOSAN KENKYU , 5(2), 166-167 CODEN: KKKEFB; ISSN: 1340-9778, 1999, WO 03/006645 A (IMCLONE SYSTEMS X 1-17.INCORPORATED; BOHLEN, PETER; HICKLIN, 19 - 25

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X Furth	ner documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.			
"A" docume consid "E" earlier of filing d "L" docume which citation "O" docume other r	nt which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	 "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family 			
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report			

19/10/2005

Blott, C

Authorized officer

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 2004)

Name and mailing address of the ISA

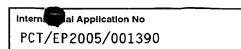
5 October 2005

DANIEL; KUSSIE,)

23 January 2003 (2003-01-23) paragraph '0085!; claims 12,15

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	US 4 021 545 A (NAIR ET AL) 3 May 1977 (1977-05-03) column 4, line 16; claims	1-17, 19-25
X	US 2003/181416 A1 (COMPER WAYNE D) 25 September 2003 (2003-09-25) paragraph '0053!; claims 1,40	1-17, 19-25
X	MIYAMOTO KEIICHI ET AL: "Novel plasma-separation dilayer gellan-gellan-sulfate adsorber for direct removal of extra domain A containing fibronectin from the blood of rheumatoid arthritis patients" INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL MACROMOLECULES, vol. 30, no. 3-4, 18 June 2002 (2002-06-18), pages 197-204, XP009054555 ISSN: 0141-8130 abstract	1-17, 19-25
X	EP 0 561 379 A (ASAHI MEDICAL CO., LTD) 22 September 1993 (1993-09-22) page 25, line 31 page 18, line 14	1-17, 19-25
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X	WO 92/13541 A (HOECHST AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 20 August 1992 (1992-08-20) page 8, paragraph 3; claims	1-17, 19-25
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP2005/001390

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. X Claims Nos.: 18 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: See FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely pald by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

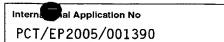
Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 18

Claim 18 is not clear (Art. 6 PCT).
Carrageenans are natural polysulfated polysaccharides and the term
"carrageenan polysulfate" used in claim 18 therefore is not clear (Art. 6 PCT).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



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